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ground that the matter whether the tile factory is a seasonal one or not has been referred to the Government. Have the Government taken any action on that?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The hon. Member may put a separate question.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what are the principles on which the Government draw a conclusion as to whether a tile factory is a seasonal one or a non-seasonal one? Are the Government aware of the fact that individual owners, after getting a defeat from the Government, want to declare the factories as seasonal and will the Government take all these things into consideration and safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the Government do take into consideration all these factors before they give a decision whether a particular factory is seasonal or not. The main criterian that should be taken note of while deciding whether one is seasonal or not, is the number of days the factory works in the year.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Once the Government have declared the Saw Mill Industry as neither seasonal nor intermittent, may I know what dose the Hon. Minister mean by saying that the case of each factory will be considered on its merits?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : While the industry as such is considered to be neither seasonal nor intermittent, there may be particular factors relating to a particular factory which might lead to the decision that a particular factory is seasonal. That is why Government said they will consider each factory on individual merits.

* 2771 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that seven industrial disputes relating to Tile Factories in Feroke, Malabar, are pending before the Conciliation and Labour Officer, Kozhikode, for one year and four months; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

" C " Class Ward Patients

* 2772 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount charged from a " C " Class Ward Patient per day in the Government General Hospitals at Madras and Kozhikode;

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(b) whether the amount charged has a bearing on the income of the patient concerned;

(c) whether this charge includes the fees for tests and cost of drugs;

(d) the amount included in this charge for diet charges;

(e) whether this rate has been reduced in this year;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (a) The amount charged at the Government General Hospital, Madras, is Rs. 3-12-0 per day. The amount charged at the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, is Rs. 1-10-0, if the monthly income of the patient or the head of the family of patient does not exceed Rs. 149 and Rs. 2-4-0 if the monthly income is between Rs. 150 and Rs. 199. If the monthly income is Rs. 200 and above, the charge is Rs. 3-8-0 per day.

(b) The charges are not levied according to the income of the patient or of the head of the family of the patient in the Government General Hospital, Madras, whereas the amount charged in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, and all other Government Hospitals has a bearing on the income of the patient or of the head of the family of the patient.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The amount included in this charge for diet is Rs. 1-8-0 in the case of Government General Hospital, Madras. In respect of Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, the amount included as diet charges is Re. 0-12-0, Re. 1 and Rs. 1-8-0 respectively on the three income groups referred to in clause (a).

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Commercial Tax Officers

* 2773 Q.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any instructions to officials of the Commercial Taxes Department forbidding the use by them of assessees' cars; and

(b) whether any officials have been punished for violation of these instructions, and if so, how many?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: (a) Under subsidiary rule 3 under rule 3 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, Government servants are forbidden to make a habitual use of vehicles and animals belonging to others or to travel, free of charge, in any vehicle plying for hire. This rule applies to the officials of the Commercial Taxes Department also.

(b) No.